

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3713
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2001
FLOODS IN ORISSA
JAGMEET SINGH BRAR

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for heavy floods in Orissa and since it was anticipated, why precautionary measures could not be undertaken in time;
- (b) the loss of life, property and crop suffered due to floods;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the situation worsened because of breaches in various river embankments and dams;
- (d) if so, the action proposed to be taken against delinquent river and dam maintenance managers; and
- (e) the steps being taken for effective flood control system?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a) to (e): As per available information, the recent floods in Orissa were mainly due to heavy rains in the catchment areas of Mahanadi system and discharge of excess water from the Hirakud reservoir and the reservoirs in Chhattisgarh. As per reports available from the Government of Orissa, the floods resulted in loss of 100 human lives, affected cropped area in 9 lakh ha. and caused damage to 2.00 lakh houses. It is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to take necessary measures in the wake of natural calamities. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the State. Various long-term schemes of flood control are under implementation with financing from the State Plan.